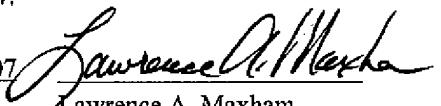


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): BRASS, Volker et al.) Certificate of Transmission/Mailing
Serial No.: 10/580,093)
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) Date Lawrence A. Maxham
) Registration No. 24,483
) Attorney for Applicant(s)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

STATUS INQUIRY LETTER

Applicant requests an indication of the status of the subject application.

This patent application was filed on 19 May 2006. A status check on PAIR shows that the application was cleared by OIPE CSR on 20 June 2006. However, we have not yet received the filing receipt. A communication from the Office advising of the status of the subject application is hereby requested.

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Dated: 25 April 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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